



01- C-2023

CITY OF ATLANTA

BILL CAMPBELL
MAYOR

55 TRINITY AVENUE, S.W.
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30335-0300
(404) 330-6100

November 19, 2001

President Robert Pitts &
Members of Atlanta City Council
55 Trinity Avenue, SW
Atlanta, Georgia 30335

Re: Appointment to the Atlanta Development Authority

Dear President Pitts and Members of Council:

It is a pleasure for me to appoint **Mr. Aaron Watson** to serve as a member of the **Atlanta Development Authority** in the **Business** category. This appointment is for a term of four (4) years, scheduled to begin on the date of Council confirmation.

I am certain that Mr. Watson will serve the City of Atlanta with distinction.

I respectfully urge confirmation of this appointment.

Sincerely,

Bill Campbell

Enclosures

Aaron Watson

Aaron Watson serves as **President of MeritSpan Holdings, Inc.** ("MeritSpan"), an electronic B2B exchange for minority-owned businesses and Fortune 500 companies to conduct a full range of business activities associated with managing supplier diversity. MeritSpan also owns companies which provide consulting and related services in the diversity field. Mr. Watson is also **President of A-AB2B, Inc.**, a subsidiary of MeritSpan, which is an Internet-driven market maker linking the African-American business community in the U.S. market. Mr. Watson was most recently in private legal practice in Atlanta, Georgia, with the Miami-based law firm Greenberg Traurig. In addition to corporate clients, Mr. Watson specialized in the corporate finance area of law. He also has practiced as a certified public accountant, working for several years with Deloitte & Touche in the U.S. and abroad.

In 1993, Mr. Watson was elected to the Atlanta Board of Education for the first of two 4-year terms and he continues to serve on the Atlanta School Board. Mr. Watson was elected by his colleagues to serve as President of the School Board each year from 1994 to 1997 again in 2000. As President of the Board, Mr. Watson oversaw an operating budget in excess of \$450 million. In those years when Mr. Watson was not President of the School Board, he chaired the Board's Finance Oversight Committee. During his tenure, he led a major campaign in 1997 to win support for a \$430 million Special Use Sales Tax to fund construction of additional schools, renovations and additions at 49 existing schools and the installation of technology infrastructure throughout the school system. Mr. Watson also is active in the Council of Urban Boards of Education, The National School Boards Association and is a Trustee of the National Federation of Urban and Suburban School Systems.

Mr. Watson is professionally affiliated with the Atlanta Bar Association, the Georgia Bar Association and the American Bar Association, and is a graduate of Duke University Law School and the University of Notre Dame. Mr. Watson also serves on the Boards of the APEX Museum, the Atlanta Development Authority and the Midtown Alliance.

<div>01-C-2023 (Do Not Write Above This Line)</div> <div>A COMMUNICATION BY MAYOR BILL CAMPBELL</div> <div>A COMMUNICATION TO APPOINT MR. AARON WATSON TO SERVE AS A MEMBER OF THE ATLANTA DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY IN THE BUSINESS CATEGORY. THIS APPOINTMENT IS FOR A TERM OF FOUR (4) YEARS SCHEDULED TO BEGIN ON THE DATE OF COUNCIL CONFIRMATION.</div> <div><div><div><div><input type="checkbox"/> CONSENT REFER</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> REGULAR REPORT REFER</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> ADVERTISE & REFER</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> 1st ADOPT 2nd READ & REFER</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> PERSONAL PAPER REFER</div></div><div><div>Date Referred</div><div>11/19/01</div></div><div><div>Referred To:</div><div>CD #R / CoC</div></div><div><div>Date Referred</div><div></div></div><div><div>Referred To:</div><div></div></div><div><div>Date Referred</div><div></div></div><div><div>Referred To:</div><div></div></div></div></div>	<div>Committee _____ Date _____ Chair _____ Referred to _____</div> <div>First Reading</div> <div>FINAL COUNCIL ACTION <input type="checkbox"/> 2nd <input type="checkbox"/> 1st & 2nd <input type="checkbox"/> 3rd Readings <input type="checkbox"/> Consent <input type="checkbox"/> V Vote <input type="checkbox"/> RC Vote</div>
<div>Committee _____ Date _____ Chair _____ Action: _____ Fav, Adv, Hold (see rev. side) _____ Other: _____ Members _____ Refer To _____</div> <div>Committee _____ Date _____ Chair _____ Action: _____ Fav, Adv, Hold (see rev. side) _____ Other: _____ Members _____ Refer To _____</div>	<div>Committee _____ Date _____ Chair _____ Action: _____ Fav, Adv, Hold (see rev. side) _____ Other: _____ Members _____ Refer To _____</div> <div>Committee _____ Date _____ Chair _____ Action: _____ Fav, Adv, Hold (see rev. side) _____ Other: _____ Members _____ Refer To _____</div>
<div>MAYOR'S ACTION</div>	